



United States Mint America the Beautiful Quarters™ Program Coin Designs and Renderings Fact Sheet

The United States Mint is connecting America through coins once again by unveiling the designs for the first five coins in the America the Beautiful Quarters Program, a new series honoring 56 national parks and other national sites in each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia and U.S. territories. The first quarter will be released to the public on April 19, followed by four additional quarters in 2010. The quarters will be released sequentially in the order in which the featured site was first established as a site (five each year through 2020, and the final design in 2021).

The America's Beautiful National Parks Quarter Dollar Coin Act of 2008 provided for designs to be submitted in accordance with the design selection and approval process developed by, and in sole discretion of, the Secretary of the Treasury. The designs on the coins issued during this program are emblematic of one national site in each host jurisdiction (State/District of Columbia/Territory) and honor the national park or other national site in each host jurisdiction deemed most appropriate in terms of natural or historic significance.

Design Criteria Standards

1. Selected sites must reasonably translate into dignified designs of which the citizens of the United States can be proud (for example, must be distinctive and readily recognizable as honoring that site).
2. Selected sites must reasonably translate into designs that are neither frivolous nor inappropriate. Inappropriate designs include, but are not limited to, those bearing logos or depictions of specific commercial, private, religious, or other organizations whose membership or ownership is not universal.
3. Designs must not include any head-and-shoulders portrait or bust of any person, living or dead, nor can designs include a portrait of a living person. Designs must not include an outline or map of a host jurisdiction.
4. Designs can be based on the same theme as used in the United States Mint's 50 State Quarters® Program, or the District of Columbia and U.S. Territories Quarters Program, but cannot be the same design.

Site Selection Process

STEP 1: The United States Mint initiated the site selection process by contacting the chief executive of each host jurisdiction (State/District of Columbia/Territory) through a formal letter of request to identify one preferred and three ranked alternative national sites in his or her jurisdiction. The United States Mint provided resources and access to lists of applicable national sites to each chief executive. National sites for consideration included any site under the supervision, management, or conservancy of the National Park Service, the United States Forest Service, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, or any similar department or agency of the Federal government.

STEP 2: With due consideration to the requirement that the national site chosen for each host jurisdiction was the most appropriate in terms of natural and historic significance, and after giving full and thoughtful consideration to national sites that were not under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior, the chief executive provided the United States Mint his or her recommendation for the national site to be honored on the respective quarter, as well as three recommended alternative national sites in order of preference.

STEP 3: The United States Mint reviewed all the recommendations and established a candidate list of the 56 national sites.

STEP 4: The United States Mint consulted with the Secretary of the Interior to ensure appropriateness of each of the 56 national site recommendations based on their natural or historical significance, and to validate the date on which each recommended site was established as a national site.

STEP 5: Having consulted with each chief executive and the Secretary of the Interior, and having giving full and thoughtful consideration to national sites that are not under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior, the United States Mint reconciled all comments and recommend a final candidate list determined to be the most appropriate in terms of natural and historical significance to the Secretary of the Treasury, who approved the final

national site list. The approved list established the order in which each quarter-dollar is released. Quarter-dollars will be released at a rate of five per year beginning in 2010 in the order in which the selected sites were first established as a national site.

2010 Quarter Designs

Each coin in the series features a common obverse (heads side) with the 1932 portrait of George Washington by John Flanagan, which has been restored to bring out subtle details and the beauty of the original model. Inscriptions are *UNITED STATES OF AMERICA*, *LIBERTY*, *IN GOD WE TRUST* and *QUARTER DOLLAR*.

Hot Springs National Park Quarter (Release Date: April 19, 2010)

The Hot Springs National Park Quarter is the first of 2010 and the first overall in the America the Beautiful Quarters™ Program. Hot Springs National Park, destination of the Dunbar-Hunter Expedition sent by President Thomas Jefferson in 1804, features prehistoric American Indian quarries. A bustling town grew up around the hot springs to provide health services. Hot Springs was first established as a national site on April 20, 1832 (4 Stat. 505), to conserve the water from the 47 springs that emerge from Hot Springs Mountain and to ensure that water was made available for drinking and therapy.

The quarter's reverse (tails side) image depicts the façade of the Hot Springs National Park headquarters building with a hot spring fountain in the foreground. The headquarters was built in the Spanish colonial revival style and completed in 1936. The National Park Service emblem is featured to the right of the door. Inscriptions are *HOT SPRINGS*, *ARKANSAS, 2010* and *E PLURIBUS UNUM*. Design candidates were developed in consultation with representatives of Hot Springs National Park.

Yellowstone National Park Quarter (Release Date: June 2010)

The Yellowstone National Park Quarter is the second of 2010 and the second overall in the America the Beautiful Quarters™ Program. First established as a national site on March 1, 1872 (17 Stat. 32), Yellowstone National Park is home to a large variety of wildlife, including grizzly bears, wolves, bison and elk. Preserved within the park are Old Faithful and a collection of the world's most extraordinary geysers.

The reverse image features the Old Faithful geyser with a mature bull bison in the foreground. Inscriptions are *YELLOWSTONE*, *WYOMING, 2010* and *E PLURIBUS UNUM*. Design candidates were developed in consultation with representatives of Yellowstone National Park.

Yosemite National Park Quarter (Release Date: July 2010)

The Yosemite National Park Quarter is the third of 2010 and the third overall in the America the Beautiful Quarters™ Program. Yosemite National Park, one of the first wilderness parks in the United States, is best known for its waterfalls, but within its nearly 1,200 square miles are deep valleys, grand meadows and ancient giant sequoias. It was first established as a national site on October 1, 1890 (26 Stat. 650). The reverse image depicts the iconic El Capitan, which rises more than 3,000 feet above the valley floor and is the largest monolith of granite in the world. Inscriptions are *YOSEMITE*, *CALIFORNIA, 2010* and *E PLURIBUS UNUM*. Design candidates were developed in consultation with representatives of Yosemite National Park.

Grand Canyon National Park Quarter (Release Date: September 2010)

The Grand Canyon National Park Quarter is the fourth of 2010 and the fourth overall in the America the Beautiful Quarters™ Program. A powerful and inspiring landscape, the Grand Canyon overwhelms the senses through its immense size – 277 river miles long, up to 18 miles wide and a mile deep. The Grand Canyon was first established as a national site on February 20, 1893 (27 Stat. 469).

The reverse image features a view of the granaries above the Nankoweap Delta in Marble Canyon near the Colorado River. (Marble Canyon is the northernmost section of the Grand Canyon.) Granaries were used for storing food and seeds (A.D. 500). Inscriptions are *GRAND CANYON*, *ARIZONA, 2010* and *E PLURIBUS UNUM*. Design candidates were developed in consultation with representatives of Grand Canyon National Park.

Mount Hood National Forest Quarter (Release Date: November 2010)

The Mount Hood National Forest Quarter is the fifth of 2010 and the fifth overall in the America the Beautiful Quarters™ Program. Located 20 miles east of Portland, Oregon, which lies in the northern part of the Willamette River Valley, Mount Hood National Forest extends south from the strikingly beautiful Columbia River Gorge across more than 60 miles of forested mountains, lakes and streams, to the Olallie Scenic Area. The forest encompasses more than one million acres. Two of its many highlights are the Timberline Lodge, a national historic landmark in its own right, and the Clackamas Wild and Scenic River. Mount Hood was first established as a national site on September 28, 1893 (Pres. Proc. No. 6; 28 Stat. 1240).

This reverse image depicts a view of Mount Hood with Lost Lake in the foreground. Inscriptions are *MOUNT HOOD, OREGON, 2010* and *E PLURIBUS UNUM*. Design candidates were developed in consultation with representatives of Mount Hood National Forest.